

Budget Council Meeting
Minutes
December 2, 2011
1:00 – 3 p.m.
Tigert 202

Attendance:

Marc Heft
Matt Fajack
Brian Harfe
Alex Berkovich
Sue Alvers
Paul Mueller
Regina Bussing
Susan Sinnott

Meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

The council members summarized the discussions from the last two council meetings about the impact of RCM on interdisciplinary programs. Doug Jones (Director, Florida Museum of Natural History) had explained to the council that his department is not getting credit for its interdisciplinary work. Faculty in his unit do not have a way to receive credit for teaching in other departments. Mark Reiger from CALS had concern that faculty are not participating in interdisciplinary programs because of lack of credit.

Discussion was interrupted to approve the November minutes. Minutes were approved.

Dr. Reiger had suggested that the university look into Ohio State University's RCM model and indicated that interdisciplinary RCM issues need to be corrected. General discussion continued on the impact that RCM has on interdisciplinary teaching and research. How do we get our work done with decreasing budgets? How will stipends for graduate students be funded? What are the ceilings for graduate tuition levels? Funding of graduate education must be addressed in implementing recommendations from the 'Dunn committee' that is reviewing data from the NRC as well as data developed from the Provost's graduate program review.

A resolution for the 3% pay raise to faculty was approved at the last Board of Trustees meeting. Currently there is a lawsuit against the state for requiring employees pay 3% toward their pension fund. The leave resolution is pending the outcome of the legislation.

Matt Fajack gave a short update on the state budget. Revenues are in a hole, unemployment is coming down, and private payrolls are up.

The council will continue discussion of RCM impacts at the next meeting. We'll also continue to discuss the 3% raises and concomitant benefits restructuring and self-insurance. Council members (as well as all UF faculty) are encouraged to contact colleagues at peer institutions to find out how self-insurance is working at other places.

Committee adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

